

The Resurgence Of Elegance

(NAPSA)—We've become a casual nation. We wear sweats out to dinner and send e-mails instead of thank you notes. The proverbial pendulum, however, seems to be swinging back to more refined ways. Many companies have abolished casual Fridays, the interview suit is making a comeback and the clothes in stores are actually polished, sophisticated and, dare we say it,—*glamorous*. For many, this fashion phenomenon can be daunting. So, here are a few tips to make this season your most stunning ever:

• **An Ode To The Little Black Dress:** Audrey Hepburn has made it a wardrobe staple—the pristine, elegant outfit. But for most of us, this “perfect” outfit has been hanging neglected in our closets. Well it's time to drag it out again. If you prefer to spring for something new, there are many feminine and flattering silhouettes available. To the knee or slightly above is the most classic length that conveys femininity and elegance.

• **See Red:** Lipstick that is. This classic, glamour girl color will give you an instant shot of chic. Those with cool or pinky complexions look best in reds with bluish undertones, while golden-based skin tones come alive with reds that have a dash of orange in them. Carefully blot excess color with a tissue (red smeared teeth are a definite fashion don't) and you're good to go.

• **It's A Shoe In:** Ask any fashionista and she'll tell you: “It's all about the shoes.” Sky-high ankle strap sandals or sexy 1940s platform open-toed sling backs are definitely the way to go this season. Don't worry about shivering through a frosty night barelegged (as we've insanely done for so many years). Brightly colored and shiny black tights are “in” once again.

• **Don't Be Afraid to Shine:** Chandelier earrings are all this season and perhaps nothing is as



glamorous. They can be as long and wide as you dare unless you are wearing a turtleneck—in which case you want to go shorter and slimmer to prevent that unattractive “no neck” look.

• **Get Inspired:** If being a glamour girl seems like way too much work, simply follow your nose. A host of classic, gorgeous scents are making a comeback and replacing the sheer sporty fragrances that have dominated the last few years. Wearing one of these sensual and feminine scents will definitely put you in a “dress up” mood. For example, 1940s couturier Nina Ricci's L'Air du Temps, is a bouquet of heady flowers, including jasmine, violet, Florentine iris, oriental rose, neroli, gardenia, and hyacinth. The original scent was housed in an elegant flacon with a dove-shaped stopper fashioned by Lalique, one of the finest crystal houses. Another classic scent to try is Carolina Herrera, an exuberant, rich floral of green aura, jasmine, tuberose, sandal and amber. These fragrances will definitely get you in the mood for a bit of dress up and glamour.